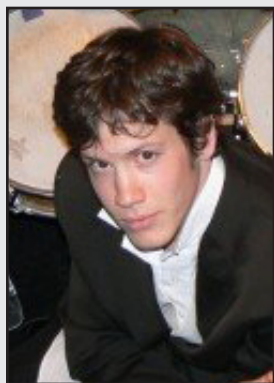


## Inside

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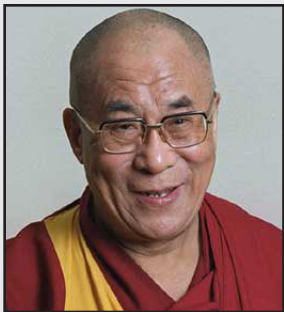
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## SPORTS



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## Weather



A few showers on Saturday  
and isolated T-Storms on Sunday.

### Saturday

◆ High 65  
▼ Low 49

Wind: ENE at 12 mph

### Sunday

◆ High 71  
▼ Low 60

Wind: NE at 12 mph

Source: weather.com

# Ben Stein speaks on "How to Ruin Your Life"

**Corey Lehnert**  
Editor-in-Chief

Criticize early and often, don't be grateful, and if things aren't perfect, just stay home and get high. Ben Stein delivered these and other ways to ruin your life in his talk in the Memorial Chapel Wed., May 9.

The talk, sponsored by the LU College Republicans and the Young America's Foundation, opened with an eclectic marimba piece by senior Mike Truesdell. A welcome from College Republicans chairman Ken Alvord and a brief introduction from Senator Bob Welch followed.

Before jumping into the body of his speech, Stein waxed poetic about Lawrence University and the Appleton area, commenting on the number of "good-looking young men and women" on the campus and promising that he would try his hardest to attain a professorship at Lawrence for the following year.

Stein then offered a few jokes to the delight of the crowd, expressing his solidarity with the Lawrence community by poking fun at Ripon and St. Norbert.

The body of the speech, in accord with its title "How to Ruin Your Life," consisted of a series of remarks inspired by lessons learned from family, friends and the odd politician.

Stein, commenting that he has seen people on the "summit

of human power ruin their lives," imparted a few points of advice on how people should *not* act if they wish to live lives free from the mistakes of past generations.

Stein continued in this vein, providing a sarcastic and biting commentary on how to ruin America. Although the talk was sponsored by right-leaning organizations, Stein's criticism was surprisingly bipartisan. He cited problems with both Democrats and Republicans and condemned the foreign policy decisions of the Bush administration as well as the work of activist judges.

Stein's tone changed as he neared the close of the speech. Whereas he began jovially, his talk concluded on a more sober and personal note, recounting his father-in-law's heroic service in World War II and Vietnam.

Decidedly pro-military, Stein said that he expressed disappointment when asked what it was like to live among stars in Malibu, as he considers the men and women of the armed forces who fight on behalf of the American people to be America's real stars.

He finished by encouraging the audience to take an active role in society, urging them to work hard, ask questions and respect others. As he said, referencing Martin Luther King, Jr., by helping and serving others we can create a Heaven on earth.



Photo by Ben Doherty  
May 9, Ben Stein delivered humorous insights on life and politics to Lawrence community members. Stein, an accomplished writer, speaker and professor, is perhaps best known to students as the star of the Clear Eyes commercials and the role of the boring economics professor in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off".

# ArtsBridge Day brings local kids to campus

**Brianna Stapleton**  
Staff Writer

Many eager Appleton youths gathered on the steps of the Memorial Chapel Fri., May 4 as they prepared to meet with the Lawrence students who had worked with them over the school year.

They came together for the Lawrence University ArtsBridge Day, a day when students, host teachers, and scholars join to celebrate the interdisciplinary learning that takes place in classrooms when the fine arts combine with social studies, science, math and geography.

ArtsBridge America is a program that was founded by President Jill Beck in 1996 when she was dean of the School of Arts at the University of California, Irvine. Lawrence officially joined the ArtsBridge network in January 2005.

In the ArtsBridge program, college students go into K-12 classrooms to provide instruction in the fine arts that also ties in with other elements of the academic curriculum.

The ArtsBridge scholars, as they are called, must work closely with host teachers and on-campus advisors to develop their lesson plans.

All ArtsBridge scholars also receive a \$1,500 stipend award and may receive academic credit. This year, around 16 ArtsBridge scholars participated in ArtsBridge Day, along with nearly 450 K-12 students.

This year's ArtsBridge Day began, for some students, with dance workshops. Sophomore Gustavo Guimaraes taught Latin-American dance to a group of elementary school students in the Buchanan Kiewit Recreation Center.

Melanie Kathan, also a sophomore, was there to assist with the workshop. "Everything was going



Photo courtesy of Lawrence.edu  
The hard work of ArtsBridge scholars and Appleton youth concluded in a fun-filled day, featuring music, art and dance.

well until [Guimaraes] asked them to find a partner. Then, suddenly, the boys and girls were on opposite sides of the gym," said Kathan with a laugh. Guimaraes eventually got the children to work together, as they danced in a circle with huge smiles.

Kelly Mulcahy, a junior studio art major and ArtsBridge scholar, observed as her students danced with Guimaraes. Mulcahy participated in "Picturing Peace," a signature ArtsBridge project, in which students learn photography skills and take pictures of things that they feel represent peace.

These pictures, and the poems that accompany them, were displayed in Riverview Lounge as part of the ArtsBridge Exhibition.

Mulcahy said that she really enjoyed working with her host teach-

er and the fifth-grade class from St. Mary Margaret Elementary School. "It's so nice to get off campus and work with kids who aren't in college," said Mulcahy.

While some students were dancing, others were rehearsing in the Memorial Chapel for the ArtsBridge Day performance. Gina Kluge, a teacher at Johnston Elementary School and the host for senior Clare Raccuglia's ArtsBridge project, was full of energy as she prepared her students for rehearsal.

"We're so excited for today!" Kluge said. Raccuglia implemented a project titled "Culture, Science, and Storytelling Through Fine Arts."

Finally, at 11 a.m. that morning, ArtsBridge participants and members of the Lawrence community gathered in the chapel to see the final per-

formance. Parents, teachers, and friends snapped photos as the students proudly displayed what they had learned with their ArtsBridge scholar.

The excitement was palpable as the children took the stage. Jasmine Yep, the director of ArtsBridge at Lawrence University, overheard one second-grader who said, "This is the best field trip we've ever been on!"

Mica Tucci, an AmeriCorps VISTA Member and Assistant Director of Lawrence University ArtsBridge, was on hand to ensure that all of the day's events went smoothly.

"We have schools from the Appleton, Neenah and Menasha school districts," said Tucci, citing some of the 11 schools that participated in ArtsBridge this year.

Tucci also explained the ArtsBridge schedule. "Students can apply once every semester [by the Appleton school district calendar]."

Some Lawrence students can do all-year projects, while others participate in fall semester projects and still others work with the schools during the spring semester.

To apply for the next ArtsBridge project session, which begins October 2007, aspiring ArtsBridge scholars should brainstorm project ideas and pick up an application in the International House or the Memorial Union.

Applications are due Fri., May 25 by 5 p.m. in the ArtsBridge Office at the International House.



# Dalai Lama visits Madison

**Tara McGovern**  
for *The Lawrentian*

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the political and spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, presented a series of lectures on Tibetan Buddhism in Madison, Wis. May 2-4. Forty Buddhist monks in their saffron and maroon robes sat at either side of the colorfully adorned stage in the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Madison.

A commotion erupted from the peaceful center of the coliseum as the monks all stood, flipping their robes over their left shoulders and bowing to the slow-moving elder monks who entered to take their place at the front of the group.

Then, the entire stadium stood in reverence as His Holiness the Dalai Lama, dressed in the same attire and walking in the same slow fashion as the other elder monks, entered the stage with a warm smile and compassionate greetings.

The 71-year-old Buddhist monk and Tibetan refugee was invited by the monks and nuns of the Deer Park Buddhist Center in Madison to talk about Buddhist teachings and texts and to honor the public with his talk "Compassion: The Source of Happiness," a subject which many of his popular books focus on.

To the Tibetan people, the Dalai Lama — a title which means ocean of wisdom — is a manifestation of the living Buddha, who chooses to be continually reincarnated to serve the Tibetan people and mankind. The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, embodies compassion, wisdom, love and peace, and is a respected and celebrated

leader all over the world.

Sitting cross-legged at the center of the stage on a large pedestal decorated in fine cloth and gold, the Dalai Lama rocked back and forth and side to side as he spoke in Tibetan about religion and Buddhist philosophy.

It was rare for 10 minutes to pass without hearing a great deal of laughter, breaking his Tibetan with the universal language of happiness. Underneath his maroon visor and large square glasses, His Holiness' eyes danced as he spoke and emphasized the importance of wisdom, compassion, forgiveness and kindness.

Speaking to questions on religion and spirituality, His Holiness recognized that spirituality doesn't fill the stomach of the hungry, nor does it cure illness and prevent economic gaps. For these physical, material, and monetary problems there are many solutions, but there is also the mental world and its problems that must be addressed.

He did not deny that one's physical experiences and mental experiences are intrinsically connected, but emphasized the point that one can be materially well provided for, and at the mental level be unhappy and anxious.

The internal processes of the mind, the Dalai Lama pointed out, are where spirituality is needed to maintain calmness and peace of mind.

When Chinese Communist troops began their occupation of Tibet in



Photo courtesy of Google Images  
The Dalai Lama visited Madison last week to speak on compassion as the source of happiness and to lead a series of guided meditations.

1951, the peace of mind, fundamental human rights, and democratic freedoms of the Tibetan people were taken away from them.

Now His Holiness the Dalai Lama is actively searching for a way to bring over 120,000 Tibetan refugees home and restore their peaceful way of life.

The Dalai Lama's sixth trip to Madison was surely a memorable occasion for all those who celebrated his presence. His Holiness is known for saying, "I am just a simple Buddhist monk — no more, nor less," but for those who can attest to his compassionate, lighthearted spirit and admirable peace in the face of violence and tremendous struggle, he is a distinguished leader.

# V-Day sexes up Riverview

**Nicole Capozziello**  
Staff Writer

V-Day's Sexuality Awareness Fair took place Tues., May 8, filling Riverview with the music of Regina Spektor and information on many aspects of sexuality. The fair consisted of booths from on- and off-campus organizations, speakers and hands-on activities.

V-Day, who brought "The Vagina Monologues" to campus earlier this year, aims to raise awareness of sexual violence against women and girls.

The fair, like "The Vagina Monologues" itself, confronted the more serious issues of sexual assault and unsafe sex while encouraging participants to explore and celebrate their own sexuality.

While previous V-Day events have been exclusively for women, the fair was open to men as well. "Our goal was to open it up to everyone and I think we succeeded in doing so," said Brianna Stapleton, secretary of V-Day and co-organizer of the event.

Over 115 people participated in the Sexuality Awareness Fair, while the organizers had only planned for about 60.

The fair contrasted informational booths with light-hearted activities, including naughty origami, a sex quiz, and condom application races judged by sophomore Peter Welch.

Participants in the activities were rewarded with raffle tickets to be turned in for door prize drawings. Door prizes included a gift certificate to a lingerie shop, the ever-popular "Position of the Day Playbook,"

and flavored lubricants.

A representative from the sex and party store Pure Romance offered samples of edible lubricants, lotion and body glitter.

Other booths presented information on issues such as HPV, other STIs, and sexual assault. Sophomore Claire Burke spoke on protection from HPV and the newly developed HPV vaccine for women. Other speakers included associate biology professor Nancy Wall.

Other organizations present included the Lawrence Wellness Committee, Sexual Harassment and Assault Resource Board and Sexual Assault Crisis Center of the Fox Cities.

Though Planned Parenthood was unable to send a representative, they did provide condoms and information on services provided by the Appleton Health Center.

Refreshments were provided in the form of an aphrodisiac café, sponsored by the Class of 1965 Activities Grant. Snacks included avocado, ginseng gum, almonds, strawberries, and, of course, chocolate.

There were also homemade penis cookies and vagina cupcakes.

Given the positive response to this year's Sexuality Awareness Fair, V-Day is hoping to offer something like it annually.

"Based on feedback, we will probably allow it to evolve and change," said Stapleton, who is hoping to get more community organizations involved in the future.

Those interested in more information about V-Day are encouraged to e-mail [lu.vday@gmail.com](mailto:lu.vday@gmail.com).

# Lawrence fraternities and sororities show Greek pride

**Liz Tubman**  
Staff Writer

Greek Week, a celebration of Greek life here at Lawrence, took place this past week on campus.

Various events hosted by the campus fraternities and sororities gave

both Greek and unaffiliated Lawrence students a chance to learn more about the Greek scene on campus as well as get involved with the organizations involved.

Each day of the week a different event was held to involve students

with Greek life. On Monday night, the sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma held their Kappa Karnival in Riverview.

This event consisted of a number of classic carnival games including balloon darts, a duck pond, ping-pong toss, and Twister. Salsa music in the

background helped provide a fun and relaxing atmosphere.

Participants bought 25-cent tickets that they used to play the different games to win prizes including gift certificates from various shops and restaurants downtown.

The sorority managed to make a good profit from the crowd of mostly Greeks who attended the event. All the proceeds from the event were donated to Harbor House, a local

See **Greek Week** on page 3

## London

*continued from page 4*

(of course there were queues, but they were relatively civilized).

London is also different from other cities because while a huge part of it was planned and erected during the great era of urban growth in the 19th century, the city has many different pasts. First, it was a Roman city, which is where the name comes from.

You can see the last remaining relics of the Roman city wall just across a busy street from the Tower of London, and, improbably, right next to a really ugly modern building.

Then think about Elizabethan London (Shakespeare's time): the London where brothels lined the South Bank, where theaters sprung up against the will of the upper classes, the London of the Plague.

Fast-forward to the era of the printing press madness which has shaped London incredibly to this day as a city of words; the time of the one civil uprising Great Britain has seen; the bustling place of William Hogarth and his comrades in city satire, Jonathan Swift and Alexander Pope.

There are hundreds of pubs and inns that are marked for which author drank there, from Johnson to Dickens to Keats to whomever you can think of.

Fast-forward again to Dickens when suburbs were growing and growing and shortly after when some of the most marvelous museums in the world were helping create a new cultural center in the City of Westminster and the boroughs directly next door.

There are churches that have switched back and forth between Catholicism and Protestantism, depending on who reigned and who wrote and who thought what.

There is prewar London and postwar London and postmodern London and throughout all of this very little architectural integrity has been upheld. From the South Bank, just across from St. Paul's Cathedral, the view of said cathedral is almost entirely obscured by hideous, dark gray office buildings.

The South Bank itself seems to be some sort of experiment in postmodern buildings, which are largely weird and ugly.

London celebrates with an edible map built by learning-disabled students and elderly immigrants. London builds new buildings on top of the site of one of the more famous of the first theaters to be built.

London takes as its symbol a building shaped like a glass pickle. London is English, British, European and most noticeably global. London is unplanned, fluid, anachronistic, historical and new.



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# HPV affects many; vaccine available on-campus

Human papilloma virus infections are of the most common and dangerous STDs. Recent projections from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that half of all sexually active people will contract HPV in their lifetime.

Currently, there are up to 100 different types of HPV in circulation. These HPV types vary in severity and consequences, as some of them lead to genital warts and others to cervical cancer in women.

Some types carry no detriment; however, those people infected with the viruses without symptoms may inadvertently spread various infections.

Infections resulting in genital warts can be treated with various topical ointments or minor surgical procedures. The process to remove genital warts is not much different than the processes necessary to remove other types of warts.

Some strains of the virus cause lesions that may eventually lead to cervical cancer. The viruses may cause warts or lesions that eventually become malignant. Every year roughly 10,000 women develop cervical cancer and up to 4,000 die from it.

Many of the victims of this cancer are considerably young and rendered sterile by its effects. Four types of the virus are considered responsible for cervical cancer.

While there is no special treatment for the cancer or the virus itself, a vaccine has been created to protect against the most dangerous strands of HPV.

The HPV vaccine, called Gardasil,

## Greek Week

*continued from page 2*

domestic abuse shelter.

One of Wednesday's featured events was Delta Gamma's Anchorsplash, held that evening in the Buchanan Kiewit Center pool.

Teams of six students competed in relay races and synchronized swimming events for various prizes including gift certificates to restaurants, coffee shops and stores downtown.

Teams participating in the event included members of Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Delta Theta, Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and the women's swim team.

Spectators who came to enjoy the event from the sidelines could enter a raffle for various prizes as well. The money raised from raffle tickets and team entry fees went to the Delta Gamma philanthropy Service for Sight, which promotes sight conservation and provides aid to the blind.

The rest of the week was filled with events hosted by other Greek organizations on campus, including a lip-sync contest held on Tuesday night in the Wriston amphitheater.

The Phi Kappa Tau car smash was held throughout the day Wednesday, and Kappa Alpha Theta's Kicks for Court Appointed Special Advocates happened Thursday.

Greek Week concludes with Friday evening's JIVA!-hosted Pacha Massive concert in the Wriston amphitheater and the Shishka dinner Saturday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

This week provided the perfect opportunity for the student body to get involved with the Greek community as well as to help support some important organizations and causes outside the Lawrence community.

was developed to prevent the spread of the cancer causing viruses, and is targeted at girls ages 11-12.

The idea is to build up antibodies within young women's immune systems before they are sexually active and at prime risk for exposure to the viruses.

Girls as young as nine may receive the vaccine, and it's also proven effective for older women and men who may wish to avoid the possibility of transmitting the

cancer-causing strands.

Gardasil is issued in a series of three shots over a span of six months. Because the vaccine is relatively new, recipients may require boosters in the future to maintain levels of antibodies, or future doses may be less vigorous.

Unfortunately, many insurance companies do not yet subsidize this relatively new preventative.

People who are already sexually active can still benefit from this vac-

cine, as they have most likely not encountered all types of the virus. Lawrence students have access to the vaccine at the Health Center.

Because most insurance companies don't cover the vaccine, and billing insurance is a service not rendered at the campus clinic, students that receive the vaccine will be billed through their student account.

Gardasil is available on campus for \$130 per shot, which is reasonable in comparison to prices at other

offices and clinics.

As a new vaccine, Gardasil is not yet offered at all Planned Parenthood clinics. It may seem that the vaccine is inconvenient in terms of pricing and availability, but it is highly recommended by Carol Saunders, RN of the Health Center. "I think it's a good idea. It's a lot cheaper than cancer."

Information for this article was gathered from the Mayo Clinic website, Gardasil product information, and Carol Saunders, RN



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# Viewpoint: Presidential Election Reform Needed



**J.B. Sivanich**  
for *The Lawrentian*

With “presidential” debates already under way, now is as opportune a time as ever to evaluate America’s presidential voting system, which consists of the primaries and the official election in November.

By February 5 of next year, the two presidential hopefuls will have been nominated by their respective parties. This is due to the bunching

up of state primaries — 18 states will move up their primaries to join the original six states with their primaries on February 5.

These combined 22 states make up 60 percent of the population, which places more importance on raising as much money as soon as possible, preventing dark horses and late entries from having a fair chance.

Since 1980, 13 of the 14 presidential nominees were the candidates who raised the most money by December 31 of the previous year.

In addition, this plan leaves some voters without any say: In 2004, Montana and New Jersey had their primaries in June — 13 weeks after John Kerry had become the sole candidate.

The recently proposed “American Plan” provides an appealing alternative. The plan consists of ten primaries, each two weeks apart, with small states scheduled at the beginning.

With each primary, the amount of electoral seats would double —

the first primary would be eight, the second sixteen, etc. This plan gives the public a larger role in picking its presidential nominees and increases the number of states that have a real say in the election process.

The Electoral College is a severely outdated and flawed system. It allows for the loser of the popular vote to be able to win the election, like Bush did in 2000, which goes against the basic principles of democracy.

Voters in non-battleground states, which are where the majority of the population of America resides, have come to believe — and rightly so — that their votes do not matter.

It also gives more power to voters in smaller states due to the fact that the number of electoral votes a state receives is determined by adding the number of congressional districts and the number of Senate seats.

Every state has two Senate seats. This translates into Wyoming having one elector for every 165,000

people, while Texas has an elector for every 652,000.

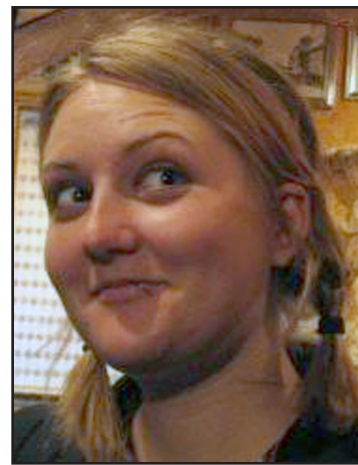
The Electoral College needs to be abolished and a popular vote system instated. Only after this happens can citizens be assured that their voices will be heard and their votes will count.

There are downsides that come with replacing the Electoral College with a popular vote system — rural issues would be pushed to the back burner while urban issues would take all the attention.

But even in today’s system, issues of particular importance in battleground states take precedence over issues in safe states.

A good example of this is the increased discussion about using ethanol as a major fuel source by candidates, a topic many Iowans — Iowa is a much fought-over state — strongly support.

However, it is imperative that our voting systems are set up in such a way that every American has as much opportunity to directly elect their President as possible.



## Who knew? with Jamie McFarlin

Not long ago, I was browsing the BBC and I came across an article on the effects that chocolate has on the body. Aside from calories, dark chocolate — chocolate high in percentage of cocoa — has a lot to offer the body.

One of the most notable aspects of chocolate is its ability to alter the mood of a person through endorphins (“morphine within”). Chocolate makes you happy.

Seventh week has the tendency to sneak up on unprepared students. With no time to recover from midterms and finals quickly approaching, often around this time of the term comes an elevated level of stress and despondency.

My experience has been that the strain of seventh week nearly overwhelms the good feelings induced by the emergence of spring and the anticipation of summer. Unlike the winter term, however, constant sunshine and decent temperatures combat anxiety in the spring. The sunshine received along the walk to class allows the body to synthesize Vitamin D and triggers the production of endorphins in the body.

Put simply, endorphins are a group of chemicals naturally occurring in the body. They occur in the brain and act as an analgesic. They also generate a sense of happiness. While most of us appreciate the springtime highs that endorphins can provide, there are other sources for those who might happen to hate sunshine.

“Runner’s high” is a feeling familiar to most athletes. During long, strenuous workouts, endorphins are released after an athlete reaches a certain level of intensity and can produce a sense of pervasive happiness while diminishing pain levels. Activities such as distance running, swimming, bicycling, rowing and weight-training are great for elevating the endorphin level in your body. Like exercise, sex also causes an endorphin rush in the body.

Chocolate may be the most popular good mood food, but there are other foods that boost endorphins as well. Chili peppers make the body believe the mouth is burning and the body responds to the pain with a natural painkiller — endorphins. Interestingly, the same chemical found in chilies, Capsaicin, is suggested for PMS relief. (I recommend taking your date to Senior Tequila’s.)

For an activity less time-consuming or involved as eating chocolate or having sex, try laughing. Laughing, or even simply just the act of smiling, releases endorphins into your body, contributing to a feel-good mood.

Hopefully seventh week does not have you in a rut. However, if you feel blue, try visiting this website for some terrible jokes: <http://www.rinkworks.com/jokes/>. Smile a bit, go for a run and treat yourself to some chocolate.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UNION GRILL

I walked into the Union Grill on a nice Tuesday evening, and began to view the menu board (which hasn’t changed in three years) behind the counter. I found what I was looking for and proceeded to order. I asked for a deli sandwich with turkey and Swiss on a pita and had it grilled.

After a few minutes, I received my sandwich with all two (2) slices of turkey. Two slices, that was all. I just dropped four bucks of my cash into a sandwich with a slice of Swiss, two slices of turkey, some lettuce, and a couple tomato slices.

All I’m thinking is, “Are you guys serious?” So I went up to the register and asked them if two slices of turkey per sandwich was the norm, or if I had gotten the short end of the stick. Now, I spend at least \$250 per term at the Union Grill, so I knew that this was not normal, but she politely informed me that the grill had switched food services and because of this they

had to cut back on portions across the board.

I could not believe what I heard. The Union Grill switched food carriers, began giving us less food for the same price, and never bothered to mention it to anyone. I suppose I can understand why they did this.

You know that you have a guaranteed base of clientele and people coming to you, so you charge what you like and give to the customer what you feel like giving to the customer. This makes it easy to cut corners wherever you wish without anyone getting upset at you and it also allows you to make some extra cash.

So to the people working at the Union Grill and people in retail operations for the union, you have seen the last of my money, the last of my grill credit, and the last of my Viking Gold. Perhaps next time you won’t be so inconsiderate to your customers.

Austin Montgomery

### GUN CONTROL ARGUMENT NAÏVE, FLAWED

J.B. Sivanich’s article in the May 4 issue of *The Lawrentian* addresses a problem by giving an unenforceable solution as well as mischaracterizing several key elements in the debate over gun control.

In particular I’d like to bring up his definition of an assault weapon, the assertion that semiautomatic weapons are not useful for self-defense, the flawed logic regarding the Virginia Tech shooting, and the holding of weapons manufacturers as responsible for some sort of failure on their part.

Defining an assault weapon solely as being semiautomatic obscures the definition of assault weapon as described in the bill he later cites, which is quite more precise than he makes it out to be. I assume he did not read the actual bill but only a summary.

To say that a semiautomatic weapon is not useful for self-defense is silly. There were no arguments made for this point and it completely ignores the fact that most people who own guns for home defense own handguns; semiautomatic handguns are generally either revolvers or machine-pistols, the former being more unwieldy for an average homeowner (do you want to be loading individual bullets while your hand is shaking?) and the latter being a true “assault weapon” if you want to use a pejorative term.

Assuming that it’s even possible to “get semiautomatic off the market” is a fallacy and amounts to little more than mental masturbation; a similar approach is

used in the “War on Drugs” and we can see how well that’s working out.

Banning something does not restrict supply in any realistic way, it only increases price and risk margin. You’re right in saying it would not have helped in the VT massacre, or in any other, as laws were already broken in most of the ways the shooters armed themselves.

You are essentially trusting people with murderous intent or criminals (the drug traffickers, gang members and terrorists mentioned earlier) to follow the law, which does not seem like the best plan ever. Holding gun manufacturers responsible for gun-related deaths for reasons other than malfunction is absurd.

It is absurd for the same reason that car manufacturers can be held accountable for major malfunctions in their products (faulty parts) but not for vehicular homicide. You also don’t take into account that keeping these weapons legal accounts for any regulatory ability the federal government even has over the situation via FOID (firearm owners’ identification cards) and gun registration.

Don’t kid yourself; people who wanted guns would still get them, they would just be unregistered and the users would lack the training necessary to attain a FOID, which is necessary to purchase a gun in most states. The approach advocated by Sivanich is dangerous, ignorant of the facts and naive.

Alex Stickle

## London Calling

### Explaining the Unexplainable: 1,000 years in 800 words

**Emily Passey**  
Staff Writer

I don’t think I’ve been obvious enough about this point just yet, but it seems like a very logical way to sum up the first half of this amazing term. London is really freaking cool. I am starting to feel as though I am able to paint a picture of London because I’ve been seeing it daily for over a month.

I am constantly moved by the ethnic diversity, which is truly unlike anywhere else, and also at the simultaneous history and modernity that can be seen, especially in the architecture. In every era people have written without consensus on what this city is. Here’s my attempt.

First of all, every time you get off the Tube, you’re in a different

scene. Life is virtually different from block to block. The city grew up as quite a mélange of towns, while also going through waves and waves of immigration, creating the varied boroughs that make up greater London. It is diverse ethnically and architecturally, both of which I will try to exemplify here.

London is not like New York or Chicago where you know which blocks of which streets, which high schools, and which churches belong to which ethnicity. For Londoners, a place that is just over 50-percent populated by one ethnicity (or at least one smallish geographical area) is an ethnic neighborhood. But that’s only 50 percent, which means that the other 50 percent come from everywhere else, and I mean everywhere.

Speaking of London’s diversity: I had the chance to witness something totally London this past weekend. It was called “Eat London,” and we did. Twelve voluntary, aid, or community groups hailing from different boroughs spent months planning and rehearsing their building of a

square mile of London completely out of food.

The roads were dense gingerbread, the Thames was a river of Perrier (though, just a note, it would have been better represented with Coke), the London Eye was pizza, Harrods was fruitcake, etc.

One group was a community group for Turkish women and they made their whole mile out of Turkish food. Another was a group

for older Bangladeshi people who put together the Tower of London with samosas and pakora (Google it). Almost every mile had cake, curry and couscous, no matter who built it.

It was totally free, I’d like to add. And everyone had completely unlimited access to as much London as they could stuff themselves with

See **London** on page 2



# STAFF EDITORIAL

## A Few of Our Favorite Things

Here are five recent developments on campus that have been improvements and benefits to the community. While they may seem like small things, they are noteworthy and make life at LU just that much better.

1. The introduction of Co-curricular Records to our Voyager accounts. We can thank LUCC for this one. While this may have seemed a bit creepy at first, it's a good way of keeping track of the numerous activities and jobs that many Lawrentians are involved in, especially when resume-building time comes around.

2. The newsletter that LUCC sent out. Finally the rest of campus has an idea of what LUCC is up to these days. It was also a good advertisement for many upcoming events.

3. The shift from Dining Dollars to the sole use of Viking Gold. This shift makes a lot of sense. It gives students more control over their meal plan and how much they're spending. The strapped-for-cash college students that we are can worry less about our cash flow now. It was always frustrating to think that our Dining Dollars couldn't be used to buy anything at the Union Station.

4. The beautiful campus. Okay, this is not really a recent development, but it's definitely more noticeable now that it's spring. The thanks go to grounds crew for this one. With all the springtime flowers and trees blooming and the green grass, campus is absolutely beautiful, making it very pleasant to be outside and enjoying the weather. The lilacs also add a nice scent to campus, especially behind Science Hall, which usually has a rather interesting combination of smells wafting up from the river.

5. The increase in vegetarian and vegan options at Downer. Not only has the availability of these options greatly increased but also the food itself has gotten better. Although there are a few vegans out there who express their wishes for a few more options, all concur upon one point: Downer has finally taken notice of the growing vegan and vegetarian demographic at Lawrence.

To all the organizations and facilities involved, we at *The Lawrentian* would like to express our gratitude for these changes. Carry on with these much-appreciated improvements.

# Love, Indubitably

James Eric Prichard  
for *The Lawrentian*

Dear Dr. Eric,

One of my friends is really attractive and I like to hang out with him. I would like to start a casual relationship with him that is not too serious. Unfortunately he is dumb as a rock, and even though I like him it is hard to respect someone so unintelligent.

I still want to date him, but I would feel bad dating someone that I don't respect as a thinker. I would feel guilty having a poor opinion about him and keeping it a secret, but I could never tell him my true thoughts. Would it be immoral to date him?

Danielle Murry

Dear Danielle,

I am worried that you are overvaluing this man's worth. Despite being both attractive and enjoyable, the boy is an idiot. The one lesson you should have learned at Lawrence is the importance of being intelligent. Your intellect defines you and is the primary faculty by which you are judged and valued as a person.

You ought to pride yourself on your smarts, knowing that they both make you who you are and elevate you above the common rabble. Without them you would be just another bungled and botched pleb. Your estimations of others should accordingly be based nearly exclusively upon their mental abilities.

This guy's lack of intellect makes him less of a person than you. You are not disrespecting him because you are actually giving him



all the respect he deserves. Instead of being ashamed you should rejoice that you are able to recognize him for what he is worth.

The solution is to devalue him further. You already hold his intellect in low esteem, so you only need to extend this opinion to his entire person. Your feelings of "disrespect" are the beginnings of a necessary dehumanization. Humans' intelligence separates us from animals. There is a direct relation between one's intelligence and humanity.

By thinking of this boy as an attractive, fun, sub-human primate, you are free to date him with impunity. You have no moral obligation to the dunce other than what one has toward animals, which is to say none at all.

*Dr. James Eric Prichard holds many terminal degrees in various fields from institutions around the globe. He is saving up his generous columnist's salary so that he can quit his job and pursue his life's dream of teaching art to inner city crippled children in order to restore their confidence.*

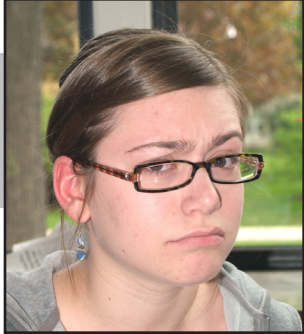
The opinions expressed in these editorials are those of the students, faculty, and community members who submitted them. All facts are as provided by the authors. *The Lawrentian* does not endorse any opinions piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the editorial board. *The Lawrentian* welcomes everyone to submit their own opinions using the parameters outlined in the masthead.

# PHOTO POLL :

"What are you doing to ruin your life?"

"Going to the Career Center."

- Emily Leininger



"I'm in the Con."

- Cory Grossman

"Plotting a graph of Andy Kincaid's make-out history."

- Stefany Sit



"Running out of meals at Downer."

- Ian Silver-Ramp

"Plotting how to be next on Andy's list."

- Katherine Elchert



"Getting STDs."

- Niko Radoshevich

Photo poll by Peter Bennett



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Editorial policy is determined by the editor. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the majority of *The Lawrentian's* editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for style and space. Letters must be e-mailed to: lawrentian@lawrence.edu. Submissions by e-mail should be text attachments.

— All submissions to the editorials page must be turned in to *The Lawrentian* no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication.

— All submissions to the editorials page must be accompanied by a phone number at which the author can be contacted. **Articles submitted without a contact number will not be published.**

— *The Lawrentian* reserves the right to print any submissions received after the above deadline and to edit each submission for clarity, decency, and grammar.

— **Letters to the editor should not be more than 350 words**, and will be edited for clarity, decency, and grammar.

— Guest editorials may be arranged by contacting the editor in chief or the editorials editor in advance of the publishing date.



# LUJE's outstanding Down Beat

Amelia Perron  
Staff Writer

The Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble, directed by Fred Sturm, has won a highly prestigious *Down Beat* Student Music Award for "Outstanding Performance" in college big band.

The submitted recording, titled "Witnesses," was comprised entirely of student compositions and arrangements. Doug Detrick '06 also represented Lawrence's jazz program, winning the "Outstanding Jazz Arrangement Award" this year.

The awards, given out by *Down Beat* magazine, are among the most prestigious available to young jazz musicians.

According to Sturm, these awards "represent the highest honors and distinction in jazz education." Hence, the competition is stiff.

"This year's *Down Beat* competition drew 865 entries from the U.S. and Canada," says Sturm. "We competed against the finest university jazz programs in North America, most of which offer master of music and doctoral programs in music."

The fact that a small, undergraduate conservatory can win in a com-

petition against large jazz programs that include graduate level performers is particularly impressive.

Says Sturm, "It's always a thrill to be recognized with an award like this, but what I'm most proud of is the fact that we accomplished this as an undergraduate institution."

"We're competing against places like Eastman that have huge, high-power jazz programs," added junior LUJE pianist Greg Woodard. "We're like your small-town organic yogurt maker competing against the guys from Dannon and Yoplait."

Woodard had no trouble explaining LUJE's underdog success story. "Fred Sturm," he said, "knows exactly what needs to be done to make the music sound better at all times. He has impeccable rehearsal technique."

"This [award] says an incredible amount about the jazz composition program here," Woodard continued, further crediting Sturm. "Not only did Doug Detrick win a DB, but the entire CD was student arrangements. Most schools wouldn't submit that for this award."

The decision to record student works instead of professional arrangements demonstrates Sturm's

confidence in the musicians.

"I decided to send the student works because they supplied, in my opinion, honest snapshots of our complete Jazz and Improvisational Music Department at that moment in time," Sturm explained. "Our finest performers were featured in works by our finest student writers, and the resulting recordings reflected the tutelage of Lawrence's superb jazz faculty."

Said super-senior trombonist James Hall, "The fact that we won it with student compositions is an added bonus. It exhibits our ensemble's 'terroir' in a way that few college jazz ensembles can."

Hall concluded, "The artistic integrity of this project is therefore almost unheard-of in the college music world."

This is LUJE's third DB, and individual Lawrentians have totaled 15 awards over the years. Detrick, this year's other *Down Beat* winner from LU, received the "Outstanding Jazz Arrangement Award" for his arrangement of Duke Ellington's "A Single Petal of a Rose." The work was recorded last spring by LUJE and the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, conducted by David Becker.

# Sounds Like The Bad Plus: "Prog"

Dan Willis  
Staff Writer

The Bad Plus have released a new album. Ring the church bells in the square, sing it from on high, rejoice both rich and poor alike: The Bad Plus have released a new album.

If you haven't heard of The Bad Plus, then first of all, I wouldn't tell too many people, and second of all, you have got to buy their latest album "Prog."

Having stirred up quite a tizzy among blue-haired jazz conservatives about whether a "jazz" piano trio should be playing songs originally spawned by devil worshippers like Nirvana and Black Sabbath, The Bad Plus have plowed forward, releasing three stellar albums on Columbia.

"Prog" finds them over on the Heads Up label, with legendary AC/DC producer Tony Platt manning the mixing board.

The Bad Plus occupy a somewhat odd musical space. As authentic and sincere as they sound to young audiences, some critics have accused them of selling out, using more accessible pop repertoire as a cheap and easy way to connect with audiences.

However, in an illuminating interview with NPR, pianist Ethan Iverson talked about covering "Smells Like Teen Spirit": "When we played it in the club, I felt the sort of interaction with the audience that probably Miles Davis felt when he played 'My Funny Valentine' in the '50s. In other words, a theme in the air at the time. When you play the Rodgers and Hart songbook that interaction really isn't there anymore."

These guys aren't sellouts and they don't pander. If they really wanted to pander to a pop audience they wouldn't bother covering tunes like "This Guy's in Love With You" by Burt Bacharach. I mean, seriously, are they trying to corner the market on weak-kneed, swooning 55-year-old empty nested mothers who also happen to have a taste for aggressive

avant-garde jazz?

Actually, come to think of it, that's the kind of ironic demographic marketing that might tickle drummer Dave King to the point of a silly fit.

So we find them on "Prog" covering four pop tunes. There's the opening wistful deconstruction of Tears for Fears' "Everybody Wants to Rule the World." Then, two tracks later, a revelatory meditation on David Bowie's exultant "Life on Mars." Later, it's Rush's "Tom Sawyer," a strong-armed melody that they chop to bits with interspersed frenetic chatter.

The next track is the aforementioned Bacharach tune. They treat this one remarkably simply and delicately. It's not like they are out for blood, they aren't deconstructionists just for the sake of deconstruction.

They're in it for the artistic insight. And if they come across a melody that provides all the insight they need, they have no problem just setting the melody up and getting very pretty with things.

This is how most of bassist Reid Anderson's compositions work.

Two of his three contributions to this album, "Giant" and "The World Is the Same," are fundamentally simple and elegant, poignant and beautiful.

But it's Anderson's third contribution, "Physical Cities," that sits as the centerpiece of this album. I asked a friend what I should write about "Prog" and he responded, "Just say 'Physical Cities, duh.' And leave it at that."

It's tempting. The track concludes with an asymmetrical thudding rhythm in which, after about two straight minutes, the tension builds up to the point where King's explosion into a freewheeling freak-out hits an unbelievably cathartic note.

"Prog" showcases The Bad Plus as an even more mature, coherent, fun and courageous band than on their previous excellent releases. Check them out.



Photo courtesy of The Bad Plus Members of The Bad Plus. From left to right: Reid Anderson, Ethan Iverson, and Dave King.

# Artist Spotlight: Derek Dreier

This week's Artist Spotlight features a prominent member of the Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble, which was recently awarded *Down Beat* Magazine's "Outstanding Performance Award." Derek Dreier is a senior percussion performance major from Iowa City, Iowa, and has been in LUJE for the past two years.

Having been in the world of percussion since high school, Dreier credits his family with giving him his musical inspiration. "My dad is a drummer, and teaches at the University of Iowa," he said. "In fact, most of my aunts and uncles are amateur musicians, so there is a lot of family influence."

Dreier decided to come to Lawrence after seeing Fred Sturm guest conduct his all-state jazz band in high school. "I loved the way he taught," he said. "And I knew that he would be someone that I could learn a lot from."

Besides his family, Dreier claims drummers Bill Stewart and Dave King as his two biggest inspirations. "I'm drawn to their creativity, musicality, sound and concepts," he said.

"Both of them are totally unique musicians, which is essential for an artist. I strive for that kind of personal sound, where people could identify me in a second."

As for the *Down Beat* award that LUJE received, Dreier was clearly proud of the accomplishment.

"I think it's great and well deserved," he said. "Lawrence -- being a small Midwest conservatory -- can easily fall under the radar compared to some of the bigger east and west coast schools."

Dreier added, "This proves that we can hang with anyone. It's a tremendous confidence boost and positive reinforcement for all the work this band has done."

"The other musicians in the band are all incredibly dedicated," he said. "And they are talented students who push each other to great achievements like this award."

Besides LUJE, Dreier is also active in the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, the Percussion Ensemble, and the Mark Urness Sextet.

After Lawrence, Dreier plans on attending Indiana University to get a master's degree in percussion performance. "I was also lucky enough to be offered an Associate Instructor position," he said. "So I'll be teaching lessons and directing the world drumming ensemble."

"After that, I'll probably track down Adam Meckler and beg him for gigs," Dreier said. "And hopefully continue my classical percussion career."

Dreier's senior recital will take place on Sat., May 26 at 1 p.m., featuring members of LUJE.



Photo courtesy of Derek Dreier

What's On? at Lawrence University Progressive Week

Monday, May 14:  
Civil & Human Rights  
8:00 p.m. Guantanamo Bay speaker  
9:00 p.m. Progressive Film Series: *It Was a Wonderful Life*

Tuesday, May 15:  
Public Policy, Politics & Reform  
7:00 p.m. Progressive Film Series: *Iraq for Sale*, followed by a discussion with Iraq War Veterans  
8:30 p.m. *Bend & Snap*: 3,315 Glow sticks on Main Hall Green

Wednesday, May 16:  
Gender & Sexuality  
4:30 p.m. Panel discussion: *Men in*

*Feminism*  
9:00 p.m. Progressive Film Series: *The Education of Shelby Knox*  
9:30 p.m. Sex toy workshop in the Coffeehouse

Thursday, May 17:  
The Environment  
Afternoon SLUG Volunteering  
5:30-7:40 p.m. Progressive dinner

Friday, May 18:  
Lifestyle & Community Service  
Afternoon SLUG Volunteering  
9:00 a.m. Adopt-a-Highway at Bubolz Nature Preserve  
1:00 p.m. Clean-up at Heckrodt

4:00 p.m. Boys and Girls Club  
8:30 a.m. Salvation Army  
7:00 p.m. Appleton area animal rescue speaker  
9:00 p.m. Progressive Film Series: *Dark Water Rising*

Saturday, May 19:  
PROGRESSAPALOOZA  
Afternoon SLUG Volunteering  
2:00 p.m. Progressapalooza Festival; Main Hall Green, with: Lacey Jo Benter, Tom Beneke, and *Surprise Headliner*.

\*Sign up for volunteer opportunities at Downer Monday-Thursday during Progressive Week. See posters for more information!



# “Whiteheaded Boy” takes the stage this weekend

**Jess Vogt**  
Staff Writer

Associate Professor of Theatre Arts Tim X. Troy was a visiting professor at Trinity College in Dublin in the fall of 2005 when he discovered Lennox Robinson, the playwright of this Spring Term's play, “Whiteheaded Boy.”

The Abbey Irish National Theatre presented another of Robinson's plays that year and Troy enjoyed it so much that he began poring over Robinson's works in search of a play he could bring back to Lawrence. He happened upon “Whiteheaded Boy.”

After Troy found the play, he suggested to his fellow theater associate Kathy Privatt that the theater department do a U.K.-themed season.

She and theater arts Fellow Annette Thornton complied, bringing Charles Dickens' “The Mystery of Edwin Drood” and an adaption of a George Shaw novel.

The play, by an Irish dramatist, rounds out the theme of the main stage shows of the 2006-07 theater season.

Originally written in 1916, “Whiteheaded Boy” is a family drama and comedy about a boy who has flunked a medical school exam for the third time. His family is trying to get rid of him by sending him across

the sea to Canada.

The play was written at a very explosive time in Irish history, premiering only weeks after and blocks from the Easter Rising rebellion in Dublin.

Senior Tammy Forward, who plays the maid and comic relief Hannah in “Whiteheaded Boy,” was

*“[It's] good old-fashioned writing...with an emphasis on good.”*

*-Tim X. Troy, director*

with Troy in Dublin when he discovered the play.

“It was unique for Robinson to write a comedy in this time when most people were writing about the tension,” Forward said. “He was able to state his thoughts and he wouldn't be chastised because it was a comedy.”

“It's very much a comedy -- not about politics, but wrapped in that moment,” commented Troy.

“We learned a lot about Irish history and independence in the process,” said Forward. “There are sociopolitical issues that have been simmering for more than 100 years now.”

Despite the distance of time and space, audience members will be able to relate to the struggles in school and life of the lead character, Denis. He is the “whiteheaded boy” of the family -- an Irish colloquial phrase meaning “favored son.”

In what is known in the world of theater as “kitchen-sink realism,” Robinson draws 12 very different characters in the play, each of whom speaks in a traditional Irish dialect.

The dialect has provided a challenge for the actors. Freshman Chad Bay, who plays Denis in the show, admitted, “I've spent lots of hours listening to the dialect tape and talking in an Irish accent.”

“It's not only the dialect,” added Forward, “but also the melodic flow and rhythm of speech that's very different from our own.”

Some of the Irish phrases have been difficult for the actors also.

“It's still English,” said Troy. “But



Chad Bay, in the role of Denis, the “whiteheaded boy,” rehearses with his co-stars for the final play of the 2006-07 season.

it's Irish English and they way they use words is very different.”

He has forced the actors to make sure they understand every word they're saying. “It's like Shakespeare. If the actor knows what he's saying, the audience will get it.”

“But it's good old-fashioned writing,” continues Troy. “With an emphasis on *good*.”

Indeed, the play's message is one that audiences of all ages can relate to. “It's about freedom to manage your own destiny,” Troy explained.

# ¡VIVA! brings Pacha Massive to Appleton

**Zachary Keilholz**  
for The Lawrentian

Appleton is set to receive a heavy dose of diversity Fri., May 11, when ¡VIVA! brings the New York-based Latin alternative band Pacha Massive to Lawrence.

For the unfamiliar, ¡VIVA! is not an acronym, but rather, a reflection of high-energy Latino/Hispanic culture. The Lawrence campus has the chance to experience some of this energy at ¡VIVA!'s latest event.

Pacha Massive -- pronounced puh-CHAH -- comes from the word “Pachamama,” which is often translated as “Mother Earth.”

The band was founded in 2005 by Dominican-born Nova, and Colombian-born Maya.

Featuring a “mixture of traditional Latin rhythms such as Colombian cumbia, Dominican palo, reggae, dancehall, dub and electronica,” the band is sure to please a wide variety of audiences.

With some tremendous concert openings, the band has experienced overwhelming popularity. After winning the Latin Alternative Music Conference battle of the bands and being chosen as MTV's first “Discover and Download” artist, the band was thrust onto the national stage.

After seeing the band perform at a concert in New York, ¡VIVA! Co-president Valeria Rojas knew right away that the group would be a fantastic act to bring to Lawrence.

Rojas entranced fellow ¡VIVA! members with tales of Pacha Massive. ¡VIVA! immediately fell in love with

the idea of bringing Pacha to campus, and with a shared goal in mind, they went to work.

Co-president Teresa Hardison exchanged messages with Pacha throughout the year, discussing the possibility of the band traveling to Appleton, and eventually, everything fell into place.

A date for the concert was agreed upon, but more importantly, ¡VIVA! secured the funds necessary to bring the band to campus.

This Friday-night event is hosted by ¡VIVA!, BOS, MCAC, Habitat for Humanity, LU Finance Committee, and the LU Spanish department.

Though the group has semi-existed at Lawrence for the last 20 years, ¡VIVA! was given a true breath of life five years ago due to the perseverance of a recent alumnus,

George Barrios.

Barrios, a native of Chile, increased group membership and campus involvement and transformed ¡VIVA! into the thriving organization it is today.

With juniors Hardison and Rojas at the helm, ¡VIVA! strives to bring Latino/Hispanic awareness to the Lawrence and greater Appleton community.

“We want to bring excitement to campus, and give students opportunities to learn more about these cultures,” Hardison said.

Through poetry readings, singing, selling food, and dancing, ¡VIVA! hopes to provide a learning and participatory experience to show people that there is more to Latino/Hispanic culture than salsa and merengue.

In addition to its stimulating

campus events, ¡VIVA! has taken members to volunteer in Chicago-area Latino neighborhoods for the last two years. These types of events can provide members with thrilling new experiences.

In the future, the group hopes to become an even more established campus organization, and this Friday, they will be hosting their biggest event to date.

In addition to Pacha's performance, ¡VIVA! is hosting a classic all-you-can-eat burger and hot dog barbeque starting at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$1 and all proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity.

The real fun begins at 8 p.m. when Pacha Massive hits the stage.

# Movies at the Mudd: “The Five Obstructions”

## A clash of directorial wits

**Corey Lehnert**  
Editor-in-Chief

In 1967 Danish filmmaker Jorgen Leth directed the film “The Perfect Human,” a 12-minute short on the peculiarity of man in all his normality, as examined by a detached observer. The film, though consisting only of a man, woman, and this impartial witness, is fascinating for all of its philosophical contemplations. It also exudes an inescapable coolness, what with its postmodern aesthetic and the mod-ish beauty of its actors.

“The Perfect Human,” in fact, is so fascinating and so cool to Lars von Trier, the Danish director of such films as “Dogville” and “Dancer in the Dark,” that he believes it to be the perfect film and Leth the perfect director. But if von Trier's films suggest anything about his cinematic

ideology, it is that perfection, if it exists at all, is fleeting.

From this comes the basis for a scheme by von Trier to destroy the perfection of “the Perfect Human,” as chronicled in the documentary “The Five Obstructions,” co-directed by von Trier and Leth, by challeng-

ing Leth to remake the film five times, each time with a new obstruction to its composition.

In presenting Leth with this challenge, von Trier aims to break down Leth's calm, almost alien detachment that is at the heart of his style, causing him to create a film that is, as von Trier says, pure garbage. Thus, we watch numerous



Photo courtesy of www.nifca.org

scenes of von Trier discussing film with Leth, studying him ceaselessly to catch a glimpse of any exploitable insecurities.

Those insecurities that von Trier does turn into obstructions largely seem ridiculously impossible or inhumane to convey on film. The first series of obstructions von Trier mandates, for instance, requires that the final cut of the film contain no longer than 12 frames. In another obstruction, von Trier suggests that Leth travel to a poverty-stricken portion of the world and film a starving child as the “perfect human.”

Regardless of the perversions

von Trier thinks up, however, Leth seems to persevere every time, creating films that are not only true to their origin, but also remarkably innovative and entertaining. Indeed, von Trier might grudgingly say that they are perfect.

Being a collaboration between the two directors, “The Five Obstructions” does an adequate job of showcasing their immediate interactions, but otherwise falls into a sparse and repetitive style that leaves one wanting. We are treated to a few moments of Leth planning and composing any particular version of the film, but otherwise we are disappointingly left in the dark as to the director's personality and technique.

With this in mind, it is my suspicion that “The Five Obstructions”

is simply a vehicle to carry Leth's new shorts to a wider audience, acting both as a testament and tribute to his style and virtuosity. Granted, Leth's cinematic responses to von Trier's propositions certainly are the main reason to see the film.

Just as the original “Perfect Human” poses as an encyclopedia entry on the fundamentals of being human, the new shorts appear as elaborations on this humanity, examining the actions of man, character and director, when placed in a diversity of situations.



The Response  
&  
Inspector Owl

May 11th 9 p.m.

Lawrence University  
Underground Coffeehouse





# Vikes, More Vikes!

with Peter Griffith

## Croquet is Cr O-K!

Collegians work very hard. We toil all day in the classroom and the library, coming up for air for but a few fleeting hours when we wearily make our way to the cafeteria for our daily tasteless sustenance and empty conversation. Then we thanklessly stagger back to the grind, retreating deep into our studies to mine a few more morsels of truth from Mozart, Molière and Mendel. At least until it gets warm outside.

For fear not, parents. We know as well as you did 50 years ago that when spring comes around it's time to put down our Punnett squares, burst out of the library, and in a fit of glee experience the "outside." Men, take off your shirts. Women, prepare your blankets on Main Hall Green. The time has again come for ... LAWN GAMES!

Yes, it's that time of year when Frisbees start flying, the Delts resume their everlasting game of soft/wiffle-ball (which is now in the 511th inning, with Hockey leading Football by a slim margin of 17,245 - 17, 098), and -- my personal favorite -- the ground thaws enough to put up the croquet set.

Is there any sweeter sound on a warm afternoon than the hollow crack of the croquet mallet hitting the ball? Except for possibly the sweet sweet (and somewhat similar) hiss of the crack of a beer can as your ball goes through the final wicket? I contend there is not.

Croquet is the perfect marriage of golf, dodgeball and Chinese checkers. It combines strategy with precision and makes for an excellent spectator event. There's no shortage of room for showboatsmanship, which, as we all know, is crucial for any spring activity -- the ladies have to be impressed -- not to mention alliances Dwight Schrute would be proud of.

And dudes, girls play croquet too. Sure, they may look funny hitting the ball between their legs instead of using perfect Ernie Els form, but it's a game a couple can enjoy without any of the latent aggression that can come out during one on one hockey or drunken foosball games.

I bought my croquet set for \$25 at the Fleet Farm (that place has everything!), and it has undoubtedly brought me more hours of enjoyment than my weight bench, guitar, and Xbox combined. Cheap, easy, and great with beers? I can only think of one thing better, and she's somewhere in Prague.

As good as Peter's columns have been, the Lawrentian cannot hold on to him forever. Those interested in writing next year's "Vikes, More Vikes!" column are encouraged to apply. You will have big shoes to fill.

# Baseball season comes to an end

**Zach Patrick-Riley**  
Staff Writer

This past week for the Lawrence University baseball team has been simply incredible. There are far too many highlights, statistics, and players that had great performances to acknowledge.

Examples of the Vikings' success include Chris Clouthier, who picked up his first career complete game shutout by stifling Carroll College batters. Backing up Clouthier was the Viking's strong offense led by Tommy Schmidt, who went four for four with three RBIs.

Then, in the nightcap of the doubleheader, strikeout king Kevin Kangas battled long and got his fourth win. If you see Forseth, give him a high five for hitting a two-run homerun near the end of the game to give the Vikings a 4-3 lead. He hit another bomb on Sunday as well.

Sunday's doubleheader was a complete slugfest. Tommy Schmidt, who was MWC player of the week, went an impeccable 5-5 with six RBIs. If you see him, ask him what cereal he eats and I would recommend going to buy some ASAP!

Schmidt's bashing brother, Hawk Haiduke, went 5-6 with four runs batted in on a grand slam. Josh Richie got a well-deserved win in the first game and Brad Hauser came in relief of him to pick up his second save of the season.

This past Tuesday the Lawrence

men faced off against UW-Whitewater, a team that has given the Vikings a lot of trouble in the past. The Vikings were not intimidated and took the win in the first game 12-6.

Luke Kostreva had a terrific pitching performance shutting the good hitting UW-Whitewater down, and then Brad Hauser once again came into the relief "zone" right away, finishing the game off and sealing Kostreva and the Vikings a win.

Senior Tim O'Toole finished his baseball career in style, sending two over the fence in the opener, and belting out a triple in his last career at bat in the second game.

UW-Whitewater took the latter game of the doubleheader comfortably, however, to end the Vikings season. A rather crazy play occurred during the final game, however, that involved senior outfielder Billy Bodle.

Bodle broke through and got Lawrence's first hit of the game in the fifth inning on a rather illegal play. Bodle hit a single on a play in which the ball clearly hit off his hand. A ball is not considered in play if it hits off of the batter's hand.

The umpires did not see the ball hit off the batter's hand, however, and once everyone realized it was a hit the concern turned towards Bodle, who had not only taken an 80 mph pitch off his finger, but had also taken a lunging dive into first to

complete the single.

When asked if he was all right to run, Bodle responded with, "Yeah, I got nothing to lose."

It turns out Bodle broke his finger and pulled his groin on the play, but you would have had to take more than that away from senior Billy Bodle to keep him from playing his last game.

The heart shown by Billy is a commonality within the Lawrence baseball team and the Lawrence seniors in particular.

Having played with them as a freshman myself last year and watching them again this year, I know how dedicated and driven all of the seniors are.

Within this past week, the Vikings finally played up to their potential and competed well against some tough teams. When the seniors were asked what they would miss most about playing for the Vikings they all responded with very similar answers.

Senior Brad Hauser commented, "You know...the guys. That's the best part about playing -- the friendships you have." I would tell the readers of the article to wish these guys luck, but in my mind they don't really need it.

The seniors on this team are smart, driven and for sure ready to face any fastball, curveball or hard hit grounder in the great game of life.

# Outstanding senior athletes say goodbye

**Ben Rosenblatt**  
Sports Editor

As spring sports come to an end for many of Lawrence's athletic teams, the focus shifts towards next year. Each team tries to get better as players improve their skills and coaches recruit younger talent, but before teams can focus on the future, they are forced to say goodbye to the past as the seniors graduate.

Seniors that have put a lot of time and passion into Lawrence athletics and have spent countless hours competing or preparing to compete now carry over their passion into other endeavors. I spoke with three such seniors on their career and what their future might entail.

Lawrence University softball player Toren Johnson played her last game as a Viking. The two-time all-conference Johnson will be greatly missed not only for her great play, but also for her leadership and outgoing personality.

The senior played both center-field and infield positions during her career and was third on the team in batting average in her final season. In her senior season, Johnson hit .367 and was second on the team in doubles, while also finishing with two triples.

When asked about her experience on the team, Johnson spoke of more than just the games, "It was a great ride. I learned a lot of great things about softball and about life".

Johnson is thankful that she had good coaching and great teammates that helped make her career an enjoyable one.

Johnson, a history major, is not sure what she will be doing after graduation, but she is confident the lessons she has learned while being

on the team will help her be successful in the future.

Lawrence University senior baseball player Tim O'Toole had a successful final season. O'Toole led the team in runs scored and stolen bases. He was tied for the team lead in doubles and hit .376.

The senior was shocked when he realized his career was over, "It went so fast. I have a lot of great memories. I wouldn't trade my experience here at Lawrence for anything."

O'Toole is no doubt thankful for the time he has had in Appleton just as his teammates and coaches were lucky to be around him.

Although Tim's playing days are done, he will still be very much involved with baseball. O'Toole is hoping to get a job in Major League

Baseball with a front office position.

He understands that such a job would require a lot of hard work -- a quality that was a big part of his success on the diamond.

Lawrence University senior golfer Ryan Knox also excelled in the final year of his career. Knox was the team's number one golfer and captain.

He finished the season on a high note by placing eighth in the three-round Midwest Conference Tournament and earning all-conference honors. During his career, the Vikings won four championships and Knox was a pivotal cornerstone in such success.

Knox said of his career, "It was good -- I enjoyed it. There were a lot of different dynamics." The senior is talking about how the



Photo courtesy of Lawrence.edu  
Toren Johnson, senior softball player.



Photo by Ben Doherty  
Tim O'Toole, senior baseball player.



Photo courtesy of Lawrence.edu  
Ryan Knox, senior golfer.

Lawrence University

scoreboard

Baseball

May 8

Lawrence

UW-Whitewater

2

19

Lawrence

UW-Whitewater

12

6

May 5

Lawrence

Carroll

18

19

Lawrence

Carroll

15

14

May 3

Lawrence

Carroll

4

3

Lawrence

Carroll

10

0

Golf

Midwest Conference

Championships (May 3-5)

6th out of 9

standings

Baseball

Team

MWC

O'all

St. Norbert \*^

14-2

24-8-1

Ripon \*

12-4

18-13

Beloit

6-10

12-20

Lawrence

6-10

12-21

Carroll

2-14

8-24

Softball

North Team

MWC

O'all

St. Norbert \* #

11-2

20-12-18

Ripon \*

9-4

17-14-15

Lawrence

6-7

15-12-10

Beloit

4-9

9-21-6

Carroll

1-12

8-23-2

# MWC Champion

\* Clinched MWC tourney berth

^ 2007 MWC Tournament Host

(May 11-12)

Statistics are courtesy of

www.lawrence.edu and

www.midwestconference.org

and are current as of

May 9, 2007

team's roster changed quite dramatically through the years as other teammates graduated and many new freshmen came in each year.

While the roster saw many changes throughout the past four years, including a coaching change, Knox remained the rock of consistency. Knox, who is a government major, says he may one day run for office -- a career that should allow plenty of time for golfing.

Softball

Five members of the Lawrence University softball team earned all-conference honors. Junior Catherine Marinac, freshman Alex Goodson and sophomore Jenna Reichel made the first team while junior Carrie Van Groll and senior Toren Johnson were on the second team. Marinac, the team's ace pitcher, led the league in strikeouts. Goodson, the Vikings' freshman phenom, finished league play with a .488 batting average while setting school records for home runs and RBIs. Reichel led the team in runs scored and stole 15 bases. Johnson hit .326 in league play while Van Groll hit .368 with two home runs.

Golf

The men took part in last week's

Midwest Conference Championship three-day, 54-hole tournament. Leading the Vikings was senior captain Ryan Knox who took eighth place and finished the season as

Sports Shorts

an all-conference performer. Sophomore Jim Breen finished the tournament three shots behind Knox and Vyskocil turned in the third low-

est score for the Vikings. The men took sixth place in the tournament.

Track

The men and women's track teams took part in the University of Wisconsin Twilight event this past weekend. Leading the way for the men was sophomore Derek Micke, who placed fourth in the 100-meter race with a time of 11.17 seconds. Russell Geisthardt also performed well, taking eighth in the 400-meters.

The women were led by sophomore standout Tatiana Bulat, who is currently ranked first in the league in the triple jump. Freshman Madeline Steinger was impressive as she tied for sixth place in the high jump with a jump of four feet and 11 inches.